



Using Systematics To Solve Agricultural Problems: Stabilizing Plant Names for Global Communication



OBJECTIVES

To provide a state-of-the-art taxonomic classification for vascular plant resources in the USDA germplasm sites.

To assemble information on all vascular plant species of interest to U.S. agriculture including economic plants from throughout the world.

SCIENTIFIC NAMES OF PLANTS

Accurate scientific names are essential for communicate about economically important plants. Plant names are used to access plant genetic resources.

Vascular plant taxonomists of the USDA-ARS Systematic Botany and Mycology Laboratory provide classification and nomenclature for the genetic resources of the USDA National Plant Germplasm System.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Data on 10,000 species has been published as *World Economic Plants: A Standard Reference* (1999) by CRC press.

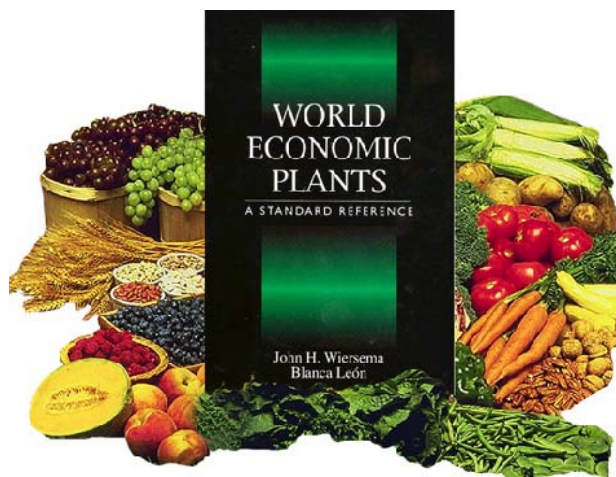
All plant data are available on the Web at <http://www.ars-grin.gov/npgs/index.html>

Names for over 60,000 species of vascular plants are included.

Common names, geographic distribution by country of state, and economic uses are provided.

Noxious weeds and threatened and endangered plant species are included.

These taxonomic standards have been adopted by major international seed trade organizations.



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